2018-2019 PRE-REQUISITE READING

English I Honors

Part One: Background Research

To Kill a Mockingbird is set in the sleepy town of Maycomb, Alabama. The consciousness of a town filled with prejudice, violence, and hypocrisy is challenged by the quiet heroism of one man's struggle for justice. Through the young eyes of his children, Scout and Jem Finch, Harper Lee explores the irrationality of adult attitudes toward race and class in the Deep South of the 1930's. To best understand the lessons of this great novel, you must first understand the author, the times, and the place in which the story is set.

In order to learn the needed background information before starting the novel, please visit and respond to four assigned websites. All the information for Part One is provided on the attached assignment sheet.

Part Two: Reading and Analysis

Read *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. You may use a local library to borrow this title, find the novel in bookstores in the area, order the book online, or download a digital copy.

In order to fully engage with the text, you will be keeping a double entry journal as you read. <u>You will save yourself a lot of time and trouble if you complete the analysis while reading rather than waiting until the end of the novel.</u> The purpose behind this is to identify relevant and important pieces of text and explain their significance. It should be used to think about, digest, summarize, question, clarify, critique, and remember what is read.

All of the information for Part Two is provided on the attached assignment sheet.

*Honor Code
Copy the following statement at the end of each assignment (Part I and Part II). Then sign and date below the statement.

"I certify that no unauthorized assistance has been received or given in the completion of this work. All work shown is my own."

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email Ms. Aughe at vaughe@haywood.k12.nc.us.

Part One: *To Kill a Mockingbird* Background Information

You will read a series of websites to help you better understand the social and physical setting of the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird.*

Website #1 – The History of Jim Crow   http://www.ferris.edu/jimcrow/what.htm

Website #2 – The Great Depression   http://www.english.illinois.edu/maps/depression/overview.htm

Website #3 – The Scottsboro Boys   http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/FTrials/scottsboro/SB_acct.html

Website #4 – Harper Lee   http://www.neabigread.org/books/mockingbird/mockingbird04.php

As you read and explore **each** website, please complete the following:

1. Write three interesting facts you glean from the presented information. Your facts should be detailed, thorough, and relevant to the content of the website. Avoid basic fact such as "Harper Lee was born…" and strive for facts that are actually interesting and likely different than your peers' responses.

2. Respond to **each** of the websites. Each response should contain the following:

    a. Your personal reaction to the information: Ex. "When I read about the Jim Crow Laws, I thought/felt…"

    b. An explanation of your personal reaction: Why did you feel or think the way you did?

    c. Connections you make to the information: Ex. "This sounds similar to the news story about…" or "This reminds me of stories my grandmother told me about…"

    d. How you think this information would impact your life if you were living through this time period: Ex. "If I were Harper's neighbor, I would react…" or "If I were struggling through the great depression, I would…"

You may type your response or write it on notebook paper. Please use the following format for each of your responses.

Name:

Date:

Block:

Topic of Website:

    Fact 1:

    Fact 2:

    Fact 3:

Personal Reaction:

    a.

    b.

    c.

    d.

Part Two: *To Kill a Mockingbird* Reading and Analysis

The novel is divided into two parts. You will be responsible for **ten** quote and response entries for Part One and **fifteen** quote and response entries for Part Two.

To create a double-sided entry, fold a sheet of paper in half or make a table with 2 columns in a word document. On the left side of the page, title the column "Quotation." On the right side of the page, title the column "Response." The left side is where you will write the text you have selected. If the amount you want to refer to on the left side is really long, you may use a partial quote and summarize the rest. Below the text write the page number the text is from. **You must always provide page numbers for hard copies and locations for digital copies.**

In the table below, pay close attention to how the page/location numbers are cited. The right side gives a variety of ways to respond to a quotation. Try to use a variety of these throughout your double-sided entry.

Quote	Response
Quote from the text, page # For example: **"When he was nearly thirteen, my brother Jem got his arm badly broken at the elbow" (3).**	**Written reactions, reflections, commentary, musings:** ("Hmmm…."/ "When I read this, I thought/felt…." / "This really made me want to….") **Connections/Background Knowledge:** ("This reminded me of….") <u>Text to text</u> (another book, poem, story, movie, song, etc.) <u>Text to Self</u> (something from you own life/a memory) <u>Text to world</u> (something from the news or history or something you heard happened to someone) **Example of something that seems important or related to major theme.** "I think this is important because…." / "This may be related to the theme ____ because…." Explain the quote or further comment. **Questions that came to mind and possible answers (something you would like to explore more or would like clarified):** "I wonder…." / "Maybe because…" **Good examples of literary technique or device: simile, metaphor, personification, characterization, imagery, allusion, alliteration, etc.** "This is a good example of ____ because…, and I like the way …." **Comment on imagery:** "I could imagine…." **Visual commentary (drawings, visual analogies, doodles)** **Infer/ Predict:** "Later in the book, I think…." **Infer/ Conclude:** "I think the author is trying to tell us…." / "I think the reason the narrator feels this way is because…."